

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G03F7/20 G02B13/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G03F H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 245 984 A (NIKON CORPORATION) 2 October 2002 (2002-10-02)	1,2,5,7, 9,16-20, 23,29, 32-36, 38,39, 50,52-54
A	abstract paragraph '0027! figure 1 claim 1 table 1 ----- -/--	45,47

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 September 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/10/2005

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/013519

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	EP 1 139 138 A (NIKON CORPORATION) 4 October 2001 (2001-10-04) abstract figure 1 table 1	54 1, 5, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 45, 47, 50, 52, 53
X A	US 5 969 803 A (MERCADO ET AL) 19 October 1999 (1999-10-19) abstract	54 1, 45, 47, 50, 52, 53

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/013519

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			CN 1376949 A	30-10-2002
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			TW 521321 B	21-02-2003
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